

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication system enabling communications between a subscriber and a station, comprising:

5 a delivery device installed on a station side, said delivery device including delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream, accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from a subscriber side, and authentication means for authenticating a device which is to
10 receive the media stream; and

a terminal device installed on the subscriber side, said terminal device including receiving means for controlling reception of the media stream, connection information management means for managing connection
15 information for specifying the media stream, and media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified media stream, generating the media quality information and transmitting the generated media quality information to the station.

20

2. The communication system according to claim 1, wherein said media quality measurement control means performs at least one of first media quality measurement control in which a packet with a loss of data is detected by
25 continuity of packets, and second media quality measurement control in which a degradation index of a media unit is calculated.

3. The communication system according to claim 2,
wherein said delivery device further includes lost data
extracting means for the first media quality measurement
5 control, said lost data extracting means extracting lost
data from a media stream content, with reference to the
media quality information, and transmitting lost data
information to the terminal device.

10 4. The communication system according to claim 3,
wherein said terminal device further includes quality
recovery means for receiving the lost data information and
recovering quality of the media stream.

15 5. The communication system according to claim 2,
wherein said media quality measurement control means
calculates the degradation index of each of subunits into
which the media unit is divided, to perform the second media
quality measurement control.

20 6. The communication system according to claim 2,
wherein said media quality measurement control means
calculates the degradation index based on a degree of
influence of error propagation on the media unit, to perform
25 the second media quality measurement control.

7. The communication system according to claim 2,

wherein said media quality measurement control means
transmits the degradation index and position information of
a degraded media unit to the delivery device as the media
quality information, to perform the second media quality
5 measurement control.

8. The communication system according to claim 7,
wherein said accounting control means causes a degree of
importance of the degraded media unit to be reflected in the
10 accounting control, with reference to the received position
information.

9. A delivery device for providing a subscriber
with information, comprising:
15 delivery means for controlling delivery of a media
stream;

accounting control means for performing accounting
control based on media quality information transmitted from
the subscriber side; and

20 authentication means for authenticating a device
which is to receive the media stream.

10. A terminal device for receiving information
from a station, comprising:

25 receiving means for controlling reception of a
delivered media stream;

connection information management means for

managing connection information for specifying the media stream; and

media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified
5 media stream, generating media quality information and transmitting the media quality information to the station.